

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive sensor comprising:
a ~~[[stack of]]~~ magnetoresistive ~~[[layers]]~~ stack layer including ~~[[an]]~~ a first anti-ferromagnetic layer, a first pinned layer, a first non-magnetic layer, and a free layer;
~~[[an]]~~ a first underlayer of said ~~[[stack of]]~~ magnetoresistive ~~[[layers]]~~ stack layer;
a magnetic domain control film; and
a pair of electrode films for supplying current to said ~~[[stack of]]~~ magnetoresistive ~~[[layers]]~~ stack layer;
~~wherein a center position of an upper surface and a lower surface of said magnetic domain control film is positioned within a range of an upper surface and a lower surface of said free layer; and~~
further comprising:
~~[[an]]~~ a second underlayer formed below said magnetic domain control film;
and
an amorphous metal film layer formed below said second underlayer for controlling a crystallization of said second underlayer,
~~wherein a center position of an upper surface and a lower surface of said magnetic domain control film is positioned within a range of an upper surface and a lower surface of said free layer, and~~
wherein said second underlayer is formed of Cr or Cr alloy and comprises a body-centered cubic lattice (BCC) polycrystal thin film, and polycrystal orientation of said second underlayer against a formed plane thereof is isometric random crystal orientation having no particular crystal orientation.
2. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive sensor according to claim 1,

wherein said magnetoresistive stack layer further comprises a protection layer,
and

~~said stack of magnetoresistive layers comprises~~ wherein said first underlayer, said first anti-ferromagnetic layer, said first pinned layer, said first non-magnetic layer, said free layer and ~~[[a]]~~ said protection layer are formed in ~~[[this]]~~ order ~~from the lower layer to the upper layer.~~

3.-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive sensor according to claim 1, wherein said amorphous metal film layer is formed on any one of surfaces within a range from a lower surface of said first underlayer to an upper surface of said first non-magnetic layer ~~of said stack of magnetoresistive layers.~~

6. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive sensor according to claim 1, wherein ~~said magnetoresistive sensor has a structure in which~~ a lower surface of said free layer is ~~[[flush]]~~ aligned with a lower surface of said magnetic domain control film, and a bias magnetic field of said magnetic domain control film is mainly applied to said free layer.

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive sensor according to claim 1, wherein said magnetic domain control film is formed of a Co alloy film, said second underlayer ~~disposed below said magnetic control film~~ controls a crystallization state of said magnetic domain control film, and said amorphous metal film layer controls a crystallization state of said second underlayer.

9. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive sensor according to claim 1, wherein said magnetic domain control film is formed of a Co alloy film, said second underlayer is formed of a Cr or Cr alloy film, and said amorphous metal film layer is formed of an Ni series alloy or Co series alloy film.

10. (original) A magnetoresistive head constituted by using a magnetoresistive sensor according to claim 1.

11. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive ~~[[sensor]]~~ head comprising:
a ~~[[stack of]]~~ magnetoresistive ~~[[layers]]~~ stack layer including ~~[[an]]~~ a first
anti-ferromagnetic layer, a first pinned layer, a first non-magnetic layer, and a free layer;
~~[[an]]~~ a first underlayer ~~[[of]]~~ for said ~~[[stack of]]~~ magnetoresistive ~~[[layers]]~~
stack layer;

a magnetic domain control film; and
a pair of electrode films for supplying current to said ~~[[stack of]]~~
magnetoresistive ~~[[layers]]~~ stack layer;

~~wherein a center position of an upper surface and a lower surface of said free layer is positioned within range of an upper surface and a lower surface at a position near an end of said magnetic domain control film; and~~

~~further comprising:~~
~~[[an]]~~ a second underlayer formed below said magnetic domain control film;
and

an amorphous metal film layer formed below said second underlayer for
controlling a crystallization state of said second underlayer,

~~wherein a track width of said magnetoresistive stack layer differs non-~~
continuously,

~~wherein said second underlayer is formed of Cr or Cr alloy and a polycrystal orientation of said second underlay against a formed plane thereof is isometric random crystal orientation having no particular crystal orientation.~~

12. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive ~~[[sensor]]~~ head according to
claim 11,

wherein said second underlayer comprises a body-centered cubic lattice
(BCC) polycrystal thin film,

wherein said magnetoresistive stack layer further comprises a protection layer,
and

~~wherein said stack of magnetoresistive layers comprises said first~~ underlayer,
said first anti-ferromagnetic layer, said first pinned layer, said first non-magnetic layer, said
free layer and ~~[[a]]~~ said protection layer are formed in ~~[[this]]~~ order ~~from the lower layer to~~
~~the upper layer.~~

13. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive ~~[[sensor]]~~ head according to
claim 11,

wherein said second underlayer comprises a body-centered cubic lattice
(BCC) polycrystal thin film,

wherein said magnetoresistive stack layer further comprises a protection layer,
a second anti-ferromagnetic layer, a second pinned layer, and a second non-magnetic layer,
and

wherein said first underlayer, said first anti-ferromagnetic layer, said first
pinned layer, said first non-magnetic layer, said free layer, said second non-magnetic layer,
said second pinned layer, said second anti-ferromagnetic layer, and said protection layer are
formed in order.

~~wherein said stack of magnetoresistive layers comprises said underlayer, said~~
~~anti-ferromagnetic layer, said pinned layer, said non-magnetic layer, said free layer, said~~
~~upper non-magnetic layer, said upper pinned layer, said upper anti-ferromagnetic layer and a~~
~~protection layer formed in this order from the lower layer to the upper layer.~~

14. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive ~~[[sensor]]~~ head according to
claim 11,

wherein said second underlayer comprises a body-centered cubic lattice
(BCC) polycrystal thin film,

wherein said magnetoresistive stack layer further comprises a protection layer,
and

~~wherein said stack of magnetoresistive layers comprises said first~~ underlayer,
said free layer, said ~~[[upper]]~~ first non-magnetic layer, said ~~[[upper]]~~ first pinned layer, said

[[upper]] first anti-ferromagnetic layer and [[a]] said protection layer are formed in [[this]] order ~~from the lower layer to the upper layer.~~

15. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive [[sensor]] head according to claim 11, wherein said amorphous metal film layer is formed on any one of surfaces within a range from a lower surface of said second underlayer to an upper surface of said non-magnetic layer of said [[stack of]] magnetoresistive [[layers]] stack layer.

16. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive [[sensor]] head according to claim 11, wherein ~~said magnetoresistive sensor has a structure in which~~ a lower surface of said free layer ~~[[is flush with]]~~ and a lower surface of said magnetic domain control film are formed in a same surface, and a bias magnetic field of said magnetic domain control film is mainly applied to said free layer.

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive [[sensor]] head according to claim 11, wherein said magnetic domain control film is formed of a Co alloy film, said second underlayer ~~disposed below said magnetic control film~~ controls a crystallization state of said magnetic domain control film, and said amorphous metal film layer controls a crystallization state of said second underlayer.

19. (currently amended) A magnetoresistive [[sensor]] head according to claim 11, wherein said magnetic domain control film is formed of a Co alloy film, said second underlayer is formed of a Cr or Cr alloy film, and said amorphous metal film layer is formed of an Ni series alloy or Co series alloy film.

20.-22. (canceled)

23. (new) A magnetoresistive head according to claim 11,

wherein said magnetic domain control film is formed of a Co alloy film, said second underlayer is formed of a Cr or Cr alloy film, and said amorphous metal film layer is formed of an Ni series alloy or Co series alloy film and includes at least one element selected from the group consisting of P, Cr, Zr, Nb, Hf, In, Mo Ti, V, Ta, W, Ru, Rh, Pd, and Pt.

24. (new) A magnetoresistive head according to claim 11,
wherein a surface of said amorphous metal film layer is oxidized.

25. (new) A magnetoresistive head according to claim 11,
wherein an average crystal grain size of a polycrystal film of the magnetic domain control film is 5 to 20 nm.

26. (new) A magnetoresistive head according to claim 11,
wherein said magnetic domain control film comprises a magnetic thin film formed of a Co alloy film and containing 5 to 20 at% composition of Pt element as a first addition element, with a coercivity of the magnetic domain control film of 1 KOe or more and with a saturation magnetic flux density of 1 T or more.

27. (new) A magnetoresistive head according to claim 11,
wherein a thickness of the second underlayer is 5 nm or less, and
wherein a thickness of the amorphous metal film layer is 5 nm or less and a gap between the free layer and the magnetic domain control film is 10 nm or less.